



## News Release

For Immediate Release:

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### **Indiana Department of Workforce Development announces National Career Readiness Certificate**

INDIANAPOLIS (September 27, 2006) -- The Indiana Department of Workforce Development, in partnership with ACT, Inc. announced the launch of a National Career Readiness Certificate.

The National Career Readiness Certificate will provide transferable, nationally recognized accreditation for the WorkKeys program. WorkKeys is an initiative designed to help employers through job assessment tools, analysis and training mechanisms. WorkKeys helps businesses find and retain employees, assists employees in the development of long-term career paths and promotes identification of core skills needed for employment success.

The National Career Readiness Certificate includes three WorkKeys assessments – Applied Mathematics, Locating Information and Reading for Information – and is awarded at three levels: Bronze (level 3 on each assessment), Silver (level 4) and Gold (level 5).

Ron Stiver, Commissioner for the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, noted the proven success of the WorkKeys program in Indiana. “The WorkKeys program has proven itself a valuable tool in our workforce development arsenal. The program is valued by employers and employees, alike, in helping identify and recognize existing skill levels and skill gaps in the workforce,” said Stiver. “We are excited to launch the Career Readiness Certificate program in conjunction with states across the country. The certificates will serve as recognizable and transferable credentials that can be earned by Hoosier workers as evidence of their proven skills.”

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve worker skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with Indiana’s 26 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures and operates a statewide job placement service. For more information

contact the Department of Workforce Development at 1-888-WorkOne, or visit the website at [www.workforce.IN.gov](http://www.workforce.IN.gov).